



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged on all sizes when compared to Friday's values. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on the larger sizes and steady on mediums. Retail demand was moderate to very good. Supplies were barely adequate to in close balance on the heavier weights and fully sufficient to available on mediums. Breaking stock offerings were tight to adequate for a light to moderate demand. Light type fowl were about sufficient to adequate for the fair to at least moderate demand.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Midwest delivered prices were 8 cents higher for large. Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were 2 cents higher for larger sizes. All other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm for the larger sizes and steady for mediums. Retail demand was good to very good. Loose egg movement was light to mostly moderate. Supplies were in close balance for the larger sizes and fully adequate for mediums and small. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was light to moderate with offerings tight to adequate. Floor stocks adequate to closely balanced. Schedules full time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI-Prices paid to producers
EXTRA LARGE	70-79	73-76	
LARGE	69-78	71-74	
MEDIUM	45-54	47-50	

	RANGE	MOSTLY
LARGE	53-62	57
MEDIUM	27-33	31
SMALL	18-22	

MIDWEST AREA: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were sharply higher on larger sizes, however mediums remained unchanged compared to the previous week's prices. Trade sentiment was fully steady on heavier weights, usually steady on lighter weight eggs. Retail and distributive demand was moderate to good. Supplies were barely adequate to available with mediums in the longest position. Breaking stock offerings were mixed for the fair demand. Offerings of light type hens were about adequate to adequate for normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	77-91	79-83
LARGE	72-86	77-81
MEDIUM	53-66	58-60

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, eastern NJ, eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices for extra large and large were 8 cents higher and medium prices were 2 cents lower. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm on the larger sizes, steady on mediums. Retail demand was good to very good. Food service movement was light to mostly moderate. Supplies were in close balance for the larger sizes and fully adequate for mediums. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was light to moderate with offerings tight to adequate. Floor stocks adequate to closely balanced. Schedules full time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	81.5-90	83-86
LARGE	80.5-89	82-85
MEDIUM	54.5-63	56-59

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were higher on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums when compared to the previous week. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on the larger sizes and steady on mediums. Demand into all channels was moderate to good. Supplies were closely balanced on the larger sizes and fully sufficient on medium eggs. Breaking stock offerings were limited on heavier weights, but lighter weights were slightly more available. Spent hens were about adequate to sufficient for a fair to at least moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	73.25-88	82-85
LARGE	73.25-86	80-83
MEDIUM	55.5-63	56-60

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, eastern TN, and southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged on extra large, large and medium when compared to Friday's values. Trade sentiment was usually steady to fully steady entering the week. Retail and distributive demand was reported as moderate to mostly good. Supplies were barely adequate on larger sizes, however mediums were fully adequate to available for present trade needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	88-92
LARGE	86-90
MEDIUM	65-69

MIDWEST REGIONAL

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	77-85	78-80
LARGE	75-83	76-78
MEDIUM	51-59	52-54

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

WESTERN Prices 8 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large; unchanged on medium. The Pacific region inventory was 1% lower than last Monday with California up 2% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 11%. Retailer demand good. Offerings barely adequate.

CALIFORNIA Prices 8 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, unchanged on medium and small. The California inventory was 2% higher than last Monday. Retailer demand good, best where features planned. Offerings about adequate. Small benchmark price 73.

Shell egg marketer's benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	127
EXTRA LARGE	123
LARGE	116
MEDIUM	93

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	259-329	JUMBO	
EXTRA LARGE	239-309	EXTRA LARGE	Not
LARGE	199-229	LARGE	Available
MEDIUM	189-199	MEDIUM	

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending December 23, 2005 will increase by 1 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 16, 2005 were 349,260 cases which was 12 percent above the prior week and 1 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	302,399	46,861	349,260
% change from the prior week.....	+11	+17	+12

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged. Demand was light to moderate with offerings tight to adequate. Floor stocks adequate to closely balanced. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	21-25	21-23
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	34-37	

CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was generally fair at best for the adequate to at least adequate offerings. Processing schedules were noted as mostly normal to instances less than normal. Sales of finished product were seasonally fair to moderate. The undertone was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 19-DEC-05

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	9.75-15.25	12-13	12.61
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING		TOO FEW TO REPORT	
FOB PLANT		TOO FEW TO REPORT	

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading levels were generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate supplies of spent hens. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were fairly good. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 19-DEC-05

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	9-15.5	11-13	12.16

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT - DEC 19, 2005

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area	
		Northeast	CENT	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	10.3	13.8	7.3	13.4	57.1
	Change	-1.8	-3.0	-0.2	-2.1	-11%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	22.6	30.4	8.2	22.3	122.0
	Change	-3.5	-5.2	-5.3	-8.5	-15%
Large	Curr Wk	39.6	87.1	55.4	91.9	381.0
	Change	-6.8	-38.9	-27.8	-27.2	-21%
Medium	Curr Wk	12.6	55.5	14.1	16.4	130.8
	Change	-1.5	-1.9	-2.8	-2.1	-7%
Small	Curr Wk	4.3	8.5	0.7	4.1	20.1
	Change	-2.2	1.0	-0.2	1.4	-3%
Misc	Curr Wk	3.0	35.2	12.5	15.2	70.0
	Change	0.4	7.0	1.5	2.7	18%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	10.0	27.6	23.0	21.5	106.1
	Change	-7.5	-12.5	-4.1	-2.6	-21%
Total	Curr Wk	102.4	258.1	121.2	184.8	887.1
Percent	Change	-18%	-17%	-24%	-17%	-15%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	887.1	-15%	169
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	179.7	-22%	35
Total Shell Egg	1,066.8	-16%	204

1/ Information supplied by a universe of 175 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. This is a representative sample of the U.S. inventory and includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

Northeast- CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
North Central - IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI
South Central - AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX
South Atlantic - AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV
Pacific- AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

CANADIAN EGGS

QUEBEC/MONTREAL: WHOLESALE PRICES-GRADED IN CARTONS (CANADIAN DOLLARS) AS REPORTED BY AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA, AISD, AID, POULTRY SECTION FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 05, 2005

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.88	1.85	1.76	1.16

MINIMUM PRICES FOR PRODUCERS FOB FARM FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 05, 2005 AS SET BY ONTARIO EGG PRODUCERS.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.42	1.42	1.32	.77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 16, 2005

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS										
11.00								6.25								17.25										
SE				NE				MW				SC				NW				SW						
CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST		ORG	DST		
GNR W 1	60.50	—		61.00	62.50	—	—	4.00	GL W J	66.00	—	—	—	—	—	77.00	1.00									
GL W J	—	—		75.00	76.50	—	—	1.00	GL W LG	—	69.00	—	—	—	—	—	3.00									
GL W XL	—	—		—	71.00	63.00	—	1.00	GL W MD	42.00	—	—	—	—	—	47.00	1.00									
GL W LG	—	—		—	—	64.00	—	2.25																		
GL W MD	—	—		50.00	51.00	—	—	2.00																		
GL W SM	38.50	41.00		—	—	—	—	1.00																		
NRBS - 39	—	—		—	—	14.25	18.00	2.00																		

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/12/05-12/16/05

CURRENT LOADS								74.00		FUTURE LOADS								66.00		TOTAL LOADS								140.00	
		SE		NE		MW				SC		NW		SW															
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	55.00	59.20	56.60	59.54	55.55	62.00	59.00	GNR W 1	—	55.00	—	—	—	76.50	3.00	GNR W 1	—	55.00	—	—	—	76.50	3.00	GNR W 1	—	55.00	—	—	3.00
GNR W 2	—	—	51.75	53.50	—	—	2.00	GL W J	64.50	—	—	—	—	75.92	3.00	GL W J	64.50	—	—	—	—	75.92	3.00	GL W J	64.50	—	—	—	3.00
GNR BR 1	—	83.00	—	—	—	79.00	3.00	GL W XL	—	74.00	—	73.00	69.00	74.60	8.00	GL W XL	—	74.00	—	73.00	69.00	74.60	8.00	GL W XL	—	74.00	—	—	8.00
GL W J	—	—	73.25	74.75	60.00	73.00	5.00	GL W LG	—	71.87	—	75.07	67.00	69.15	29.00	GL W LG	—	71.87	—	75.07	67.00	69.15	29.00	GL W LG	—	71.87	—	—	29.00
GL W XL	—	74.00	67.25	69.11	61.83	65.25	27.25	GL W MD	40.62	—	40.00	45.50	42.00	45.93	9.50	GL W MD	40.62	—	40.00	45.50	42.00	45.93	9.50	GL W MD	40.62	—	—	9.50	
GL W LG	64.00	78.29	62.33	63.88	57.71	64.33	39.75	GL BR J	—	—	—	—	—	—	.25	GL BR J	—	—	—	—	—	—	.25	GL BR J	—	—	—	—	.25
GL W MD	52.00	45.00	50.00	43.50	34.65	37.25	20.25	GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50	GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50	GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	.50
GL W SM	38.25	41.00	35.94	37.89	—	—	6.50	GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	—	.75	GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	—	.75	GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	.75
GL BR J	—	—	—	—	—	—	.25																						
GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50																						
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	—	.75																						
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	39.50	37.00	21.00																						
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	—	35.00	3.00																						
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	15.00	18.00	3.00																						

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS.
THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER.
NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/12/05	12/05/05	12/13/04
PACIFIC COAST	112	113	539
LOS ANGELES	107	107	530

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is higher on extra large and large, steady on the balance. Supplies are adequate. Retail demand is good.

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE	99.86
LARGE	98.86
MEDIUM	73.86
SMALL	58.00

CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	222 – 260	239 - 240
1/2 doz.	120 – 151	130 - 134
Large doz.	217 – 250	225 - 230
1/2 doz.	115 – 142	125 - 128

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